

Appl. No. 10/727,907
Amdt. dated June 20, 2006
Reply to Office Action of March 23, 2006

Docket No. A01327

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-5 and 11-20 remain in this application. Claim 2 is cancelled, without prejudice. Claims 6-10 are withdrawn in reponse to the restriction stated in the above-identified office action. Claims 11-20 are new.

Amendments: Lack of New Matter

Applicant submits that the forgoing claim amendments do not introduce new matter into the present application. The features recited in the forgoing claim amendments are recited in the present specification as follows.

<u>claim</u>	<u>feature</u>	<u>page/lines</u>
1	acid-containing emulsion polymer	15/23-24
1	metal ion	15/14-15
2	carboxyl comonomers	13/15
11	list of carboxyl comonomers	13/15-16
12	(meth)acrylic acid	12/14
13	core	12/24
13	multifunctional monomer	12/25-26
14	list of multifunctional monomers	14/1-8
15	unsaturated monoepoxides	14/14
16	glycidyl methacrylate	Example 3
17	list of metal ions	15/16-17
18	concentration of metal ions	15/14
19	features of claims 13, 14, and 17	
20	stripping agent	29/27, 30/4, and 48/12

Appl. No. 10/727,907
Amdt. dated June 20, 2006
Reply to Office Action of March 23, 2006

Docket No. A01327

Response to rejection of claims 1-5 over Wolfersberger

In the above-identified Office Action the Examiner rejected claims 1-5 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by US 5,306,744 (Wolfersberger).

Wolfersberger does not teach or suggest the use of polyvalent metal ions the polymer compositions disclosed therein.

Further, Wolfersberger does not teach or suggest coatings that are removable. Wolfersberger states that the benefits of the polymer compositions disclosed there in include "chemical resistance," (col. 1, line 20) "solvent resistance," and "water resistance." (col. 2, line 41). A person of ordinary skill in the art would not interpret Wolfersberger's teachings as suggesting the possibility of removable coatings.

In contrast, currently amended claim 1 recites polymers that have both acid functionality and polyvalent metal ions. As disclosed throughout the present specification (see for example p. 4, lines 12-14), the combination of features of the present invention give the unanticipated benefit of removability of the coating as well as the ability to cure by radiation.

Consequently, Applicants submit that currently amended claim 1 is novel over Wolfersberger. Similarly, claims 3-5 and 11-19, which are dependent, directly or indirectly, on claim 1, are also novel over Wolfersberger.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and arguments, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reexamine the claimed subject matter, to withdraw the rejections of the claimed subject matter and to allow claims 1, 3-5, and 11-19 at this time. If, however, there remain any open issues which the Examiner believes can be resolved by a telephone call, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned agent.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with the submission of this amendment; however, if any such fees, including petition or extension fees, are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge them, as well as to credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 18-1850.

Appl. No. 10/727,907
Amdt. dated June 20, 2006
Reply to Office Action of March 23, 2006

Docket No. A01327

Respectfully Submitted,

Rohm and Haas Company
Independence Mall West
Philadelphia, PA 19106-2399

Date: June 20, 2006



Carl P. Hemenway
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 51,798
Tel: 215-619-5242
Fax: 215-619-1612